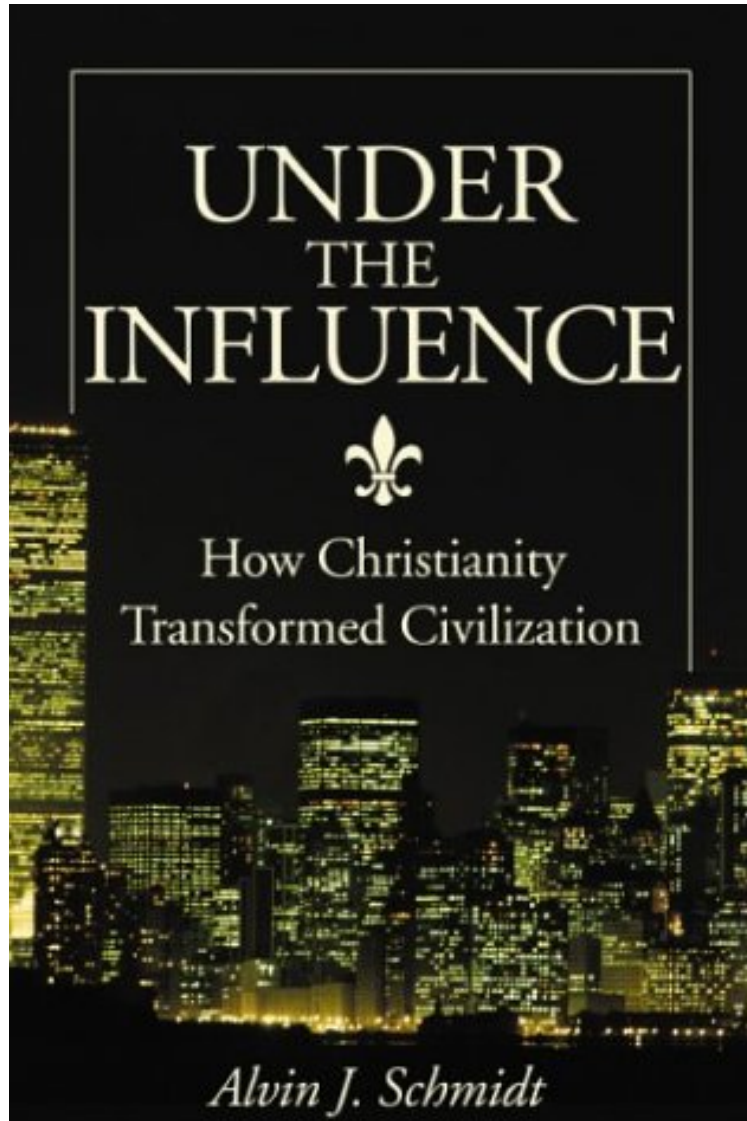


[Ebook free] Under the Influence: How Christianity Transformed Civilization

Under the Influence: How Christianity Transformed Civilization

Alvin J. Schmidt

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Alvin J. Schmidt : Under the Influence: How Christianity Transformed Civilization before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Under the Influence: How Christianity Transformed Civilization:

10 of 12 people found the following review helpful. An indispensable text in the history of ChristianityBy Roger HerringtonOne cannot have a complete understanding of world history of the history of Christianity without having read this book. Schmidt pulls together the much-neglected cohesion of Christian contributions to world history. At a time when Christianity-bashing is a favorite sport within the pluralistic/relativist/ political correct crowd, one must not

let the ignorance of this important aspect of history die of neglect. Schmidt also goes on to correct many myths that have been perpetuated regarding Christian history. By placing them into their proper historical context, the final outcome isn't as strange as we've been led to believe. This is one book that I couldn't put down. 25 of 27 people found the following review helpful. Thorough Overview of Christianity's Influence on Civilization By rodboomboom Schmidt adequately looks at the various cultural segments that Christianity has shaped over the centuries. Broad in his sweep, he looks at people transformed, sanctity of human life, sexual morality, view of women, charity/compassion, hospitals and health care, education, labor and economic freedom, science, liberty and justice, slavery, art and architecture, music, literature, and holidays and words. This is an excellent commentary on the deconstruction of history to write Christian influence out. Especially revealing to most in our times would likely be in area of science. Kepler, Copernicus, etc. were all adamant Christians. Contemporary writers like to portray the church as hostile to their scientific discoveries. However, as Schmidt points out, not all of the church held this view. That's the side of the story they don't tell, but Schmidt does. Fascinating reading. Well documented and written. Reader will glean much insight from this worthy book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read! I would highly recommend By Customer Great read! I would highly recommend.

A survey of the various ways--often unrecognized and overlooked--whereby Christianity has impacted the world, making the world a better place and enriching our everyday living.

From the Back Cover Western civilization is becoming increasingly pluralistic, secularized, and biblically illiterate. Many people today have little sense of how their lives have benefited from Christianity's influence, often viewing the church with hostility or resentment. Under the Influence is a topically arranged Christian history for Christians and non-Christians. Grounded in solid research and written in a popular style, this book is both a helpful apologetic tool in talking with unbelievers and a source of evidence for why Christianity deserves credit for many of the humane, social, scientific, and cultural advances in the Western world in the last 2,000 years. Photographs and timelines enhance each chapter. Some unrecognized contributions of Christianity include: * Bringing sanctity to human life by opposing the Greco-Roman practices of abortion, infanticide, child abandonment, and suicide * Raising the level of sexual morality and giving dignity to family life * Giving freedom and dignity to women * First founding hospitals in the 4th century * Originating universities and higher education * Bringing dignity and honor to labor * Spawning and developing modern science * First condemning slavery and inspiring its abolition * Producing major contributions to art, architecture, music, and literature About the Author Alvin J. Schmidt (Ph.D., University of Nebraska) retired in 1999 as professor of sociology at Illinois College. He has contributed to numerous journals and is the author of several books. He lives in Jacksonville, IL.